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Olyokma

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The **Olyokma** (Russian: Олёкма, *Olyokma*, IPA: [ɐˈlʲɵkmə];[1] Yakut: Өлүөхүмэ, *Ölüöküme*[1]) is a tributary of the Lena in eastern Siberia.

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History [edit source]

In the summer of 1631, Russian pioneer Pyotr Beketov entered the Olyokma during his first voyage down the Lena and in 1636 he founded the present-day city of Olyokminsk near the mouth of the river on the left bank of Lena.[2]

Yerofey Khabarov used this river's route to travel from the Lena to the Amur during his mid-17th century expeditions.[1]

Course [edit source]

The river is 1,436 kilometres (892 mi) long, and has a drainage basin of 210,000 square kilometres (81,000 sq mi).[3] The Olyokma rises in the Muroy Range, Olyokma-Stanovik Highlands (Олёкминский Становик), west of Mogocha. It flows north through remote terrain before joining the Lena near Olyokminsk.[4]

To the west is the Vitim, to the south the Shilka and Amur, and to the east the upper Aldan. Its right tributary, the Tungir [Wikidata], leads to a portage to the Shilka. Other tributaries are the Nyukzha [Wikidata] and the Chara.[2]

River location

Basin of the Lena

Olyokma
Yakut: Өлүөхүмэ

View of the river

Location in the Sakha Republic, Russia

Location	
Country	Yakutia, Russia
Physical characteristics	
Source	
• location	Muroy Range, Olyokma-Stanovik Highlands
• coordinates	53°44′42″N 117°20′16″E
• elevation	1,500 m (4,900 ft)
Mouth	
• location	Lena
• coordinates	60°22′27″N 120°40′40″E
• elevation	115 m (377 ft)
Length	1,436 km (892 mi)
Basin size	210,000 km^2 (81,000 sq mi)
Discharge	
• average	2,110 m^3/s (75,000 cu ft/s)
Basin features	
Progression	Lena→ Laptev Sea

See also [edit source]

- List of rivers of Russia
- Patom Highlands

References [edit source]

1. ^ a b c "KNAB, the Place Names Database of EKI". Eki.ee. Retrieved 2013-01-01.
2. ^ a b *Олёкма* // Great Soviet Encyclopedia, in 30 vols. / Ch. ed. A.M. Prokhorov . - 3rd ed. - M., 1969-197
3. ^ Река Олёкма in the State Water Register of Russia (Russian)
4. ^ Russian State Water Register - Olyokma River

External links [edit source]

- Media related to Olyokma River at Wikimedia Commons

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Russia portal

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Categories: Tributaries of the Lena | Rivers of the Sakha Republic | Sakha Republic geography stubs | Russia river stubs

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